

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A liquid reservoir apparatus comprising a storage which stores a liquid, a negative pressure introducing portion which introduces a negative pressure into said storage, a liquid intake portion which takes the liquid into said storage with the negative pressure introduced from said negative pressure introducing portion, a liquid storage chamber reservoir which is provided in said storage to hold the liquid stored in said storage, a liquid supply port which is provided to said storage to supply the liquid stored in said storage, a gas/liquid separating member which transmits only a gas therethrough, and negative pressure generating means for drawing air in said storage by suction to effect the negative pressure,

wherein a plurality of thin plates are disposed in said liquid storage chamber at predetermined intervals to form a storing portion in which predetermined said liquid reservoir has a plurality of thin bodies provided at gaps from each other in said storage, so that the liquid in said storage is held by a capillary force is generated, by said thin bodies, and

wherein a predetermined a liquid guide portion, which is set at a gap is formed between said storing portion and an outlet, so as to form a guiding portion in which one end of said liquid reservoir and an inner wall of said storage, is provided so that the capillary force in the vicinity of the liquid supply port is larger than that of said liquid

reservoir is generated, wherein the generated capillary force is stronger than the capillary force of said storing portion, and

wherein said guiding portion is formed of part of said thin plates forming said storing portion and an inner wall of said liquid storage chamber.

2. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said gas/liquid separating member is provided to said negative pressure introducing portion or at a position corresponding to said negative pressure introducing portion.

3. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the inner wall of said liquid storage chamber has a groove, at a position adjacent to said liquid introducing portion, which generates a capillary force larger than that of said liquid introducing guiding portion.

4. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the gaps among said thin plates bodies in said liquid storage chamber reservoir gradually increase as the gaps are more distant from said liquid introducing guiding portion.

5. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the gaps among said thin plates bodies in said liquid storage chamber reservoir fall within a range of 0.05 mm (inclusive) to 0.5 mm (inclusive).

6. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the capillary force of said liquid storage chamber reservoir falls within a range of 30 Pa (inclusive) to 2,000 Pa (inclusive).

7. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said gas/liquid separating member is porous and subjected to a repellent treatment.

8. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said gas/liquid separating member is a gas permeable film made of a porous material and subjected to a repellent treatment.

9. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said gas/liquid separating member is a gas permeable film made of a porous resin material and subjected to a repellent treatment.

10. (Currently Amended) A printer comprising a liquid reservoir apparatus according to claim 1, wherein liquid in said liquid reservoir apparatus is ink and wherein the printer prints by discharging the ink through a printhead.